



LINSLADE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

AND OF THE

SANITARY INSPECTOR

FOR THE YEAR

1950



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1950

LINSLADE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

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V. C. Spary, Esq., J.P.

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

CHAIRMAN

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PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

Dr. D. H. Waldron, O.B.E., M.D., D.P.H., D.T.M. & H.,
Col. I.A.M.C. (Retd.)

(The Medical Officer of Health is also M.O.H. for
Buckingham Borough, Buckingham R.D.C., Bletchley U.D.C.,
Wing R.D.C., Divisional School Medical Officer and Area Medical
Officer for North Bucks).

SURVEYOR & SANITARY INSPECTOR

Leonard W. Eves, M.R.S.I., M.S.I.A., M.R.I.P.H.H.

LINSLADE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Council Offices,
6 Leighton Road,
LINSLADE.

27th July, 1951.

To the Chairman and Members of the
Urban District Council of Linslade

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the year 1950.

From the point of view of the general public health it has been a satisfactory year.

The birth rate shows an increase over 1949, but is slightly below that for the rest of the County and England and Wales.

The death rate also shows an increase, but approximately 75 per cent occurred in persons of 65 and over.

The Infantile Mortality rate is satisfactorily low compared with the rest of the County and England and Wales.

Of the three cases of food poisoning shown in the list of notifiable diseases, one was traced to a source outside the district, and two cases to cream produced in the district.

I took over my duties as your Medical Officer of Health from Dr. M. C. Rothcope in June, 1950, and I should like to thank him for his helpful co-operation.

I should also like to congratulate your Public Health Committee on their real interest in the welfare and public health of the district.

Your Clerk, Mr. P. J. Uphill, and your Surveyor and Sanitary Inspector, Mr. L. W. Eves, have at all times provided me with helpful advice and cordial co-operation, and for this I thank them.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

D. H. WALDRON.

(A) VITAL STATISTICS

Area in Acres	1,693
Population	...	...	...	...	...	3,372
Number of Inhabited Houses	...	...	...	...	...	986
Rateable Value	...	...	...	(1.4.50)	...	£17,807
Rate in the £	...	...	...	...	...	21/-
Sum represented by a penny rate	...	...	...	...	...	£73

BIRTHS

Legitimate (male)	...	...	...	...	...	24
„ (female)	...	...	...	...	...	27
Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
Birth Rate per 1,000 population	...	...	...	...	...	15.1
„ „ „ „ „	...	...	...	...	(Bucks)	15.5
„ „ „ „ „	...	...	...	...	(England & Wales)	15.8
Still Births	...	...	...	...	...	1

DEATHS

Males	...	...	...	...	...	23
Females	...	...	...	...	...	20
Death Rate per 1,000 population	...	...	...	...	...	12.8
„ „ „ „ „	...	...	...	...	(Bucks)	10.3
„ „ „ „ „	...	...	...	...	(England & Wales)	11.6
Maternal Mortality Rate	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
„ „ „ „ „	...	...	...	...	(Bucks)	0.49
„ „ „ „ „	...	...	...	...	(England & Wales)	0.86

PRINCIPAL CAUSES OF DEATH

	M.	F.	T.
Respiratory Tuberculosis	0	1	1
Other Tuberculosis	0	0	0
Cancer	4	6	10
Diabetes	0	1	1
Haemorrhage into Nervous System	2	4	6
Heart Diseases	7	8	15
Pneumonia	1	0	1
Bronchitis	1	0	1
Digestive Diseases	2	0	2
Congenital Causes	1	0	1
Accidents	1	0	1
All other causes	4	0	4
Totals	23	20	43

INFANTILE MORTALITY

Deaths of Infants under 1 year per 1,000 births ...	19.6
„ „ „ „ „ „ „ „ (Bucks)	24.8
„ „ „ „ „ „ (England & Wales)	29.8
Deaths from Measles	Nil
„ „ Whooping Cough	Nil
„ „ Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age) ...	Nil

(B) GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES

1. LABORATORY FACILITIES

Specimens for pathological investigation are sent, as in previous years, to the Public Health Laboratory Service at Luton. This arrangement has worked out very satisfactorily.

2. AMBULANCE SERVICES

These services were taken over by the County Council from 6th July, 1948. For general cases and accidents, three motor ambulances are maintained in the district, and for cases of infectious diseases the motor ambulance from the Isolation Hospital at Aylesbury is obtained.

3. NURSING IN THE HOME

This, as also her maternity duties, was carried out by the District Nurse, in her usual efficient manner.

4 CHILD WELFARE CENTRE

A centre at The Forster Institute has held regular sessions on the 2nd and 4th Friday of each month. A Medical Officer attends once a month, and the District Nurse and Health Visitor each session.

5. HOSPITALS

The following hospitals have received cases from the area:—

- Luton and Dunstable
- Royal Bucks Hospital, Aylesbury
- Tindal Hospital, Aylesbury
- Spittlesea Hospital, Luton
- Isolation Hospital, Aylesbury

(C) SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

1. WATER SUPPLY

Linslade receives its supply from two boreholes sunk in the greensand at the Soulbury Road Waterworks.

Borehole No. 1 is 18 inch diameter and is 154 feet in depth. Borehole No. 2 is 24 inch diameter and is 153 feet deep.

At the beginning of the year the only supply was by means of a temporary submersible pump in borehole No. 2, as the centrifugal pump to borehole No. 1 was being overhauled and the permanent pump for borehole No. 2 had not been received from the manufacturers.

Installation of the reconditioned pump to borehole No. 1 was completed in May, when the maximum yield was found to be 3,400 gallons per hour.

Installation of the new centrifugal pump to borehole No. 2 was completed in June, and the yield was found to be 10,000 gallons per hour, although the pumping rate was kept down to 6,000 gallons per hour.

For the first time in its history, Linslade now has two borehole pumps, and the fear of a complete breakdown has therefore largely disappeared.

Aeration and filtration of the supply is carried out at the reservoir site, also at Soulbury Road, the water passing over water spreaders and then being treated by slow sand filtration. The reservoir is of 100,000 gallons capacity. Average consumption was approximately 110,000 gallons per day.

The purity of the supply is excellent, and the regular monthly samples, both from the reservoir and various points on the distribution system, were highly satisfactory.

Water as delivered to the consumer is clear and bright in appearance, free from iron and other metals, is neutral in reaction, and has a very moderate content of free carbon dioxide. It is, however, very hard in character. (Total hardness 355 p.p.m.).

2. SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

Every effort was made during the year to produce a satisfactory effluent at the sewage disposal works. Improvements were carried out, but the overloaded conditions continued to give cause for anxiety. An inspection of the sewers, which are on the "separate" system, indicated that they are generally very satisfactory.

3. REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL

The weekly house and trade refuse collection was carried out very satisfactorily.

We continued to use the Leighton Buzzard Refuse Tip on an agreed financial basis.

4. RIVERS AND STREAMS

Periodic inspections of the canal, rivers and streams within the Urban District did not reveal any serious pollution.

5. SWIMMING BATHS AND POOLS

There are no swimming baths or pools suitable for bathing within the Urban District.

6. PUBLIC MORTUARY

The mortuary, which is the joint responsibility of this authority and the Wing Rural District Council, was used only twice during the year. Some improvements in the lighting and sanitary facilities were made.

(D) HOUSING

The Council's Chelsea Green Estate was completed during the year, and considerable progress was made with the bungalows and terrace type houses on the Soulbury Road Estate. Thirty-seven new Council houses were occupied during 1950 bringing the post-war total to one hundred and ten.

Twenty-three informal notices were served for the execution of housing repairs and in only eight cases was it necessary to serve Statutory Notices in order to get the notices complied with.

One house was demolished.

(E) NUISANCES, CONTRAVENTION OF BYELAWS, ETC.

1. GENERAL

Complaints of nuisances were dealt with by informal action, six notices being served during the year. In no case was it necessary to serve Statutory Notices or to take action for contraventions of the byelaws.

2. FACTORIES ACT, 1937

No action was necessary under the above mentioned act during the year. Form 572 has been completed.

3. MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS) REGS., 1926-1948

The dairies within the Urban District were maintained in a satisfactory condition.

4. ICE CREAM

Regular inspection of retail premises were made. The only ice cream factory registered for the manufacture of ice cream ceased production during July.

Of the 33 samples taken, 21 were in Grade 1, 10 were in grade 2, and 2 were in grade 3.

As regards the Grade 3 samples action was taken to effect an improvement.

5. SLAUGHTERHOUSES

There are no slaughterhouses in use within the district.

6. UNSOUND FOOD

Condemnation certificates were issued in respect of food found to be unfit for human consumption, as follows:—

16 tins of fish	$\frac{1}{2}$ lb. butter
17 „ „ vegetables	2 Xmas puddings
11 „ „ milk	25lb. meat
11 „ „ meat	72lb. sweets
2 „ „ fruit	
1 „ „ soup	

7. RATS & MICE (DESTRUCTION) ORDERS, 1919-1943

Regular inspections for the destruction of rats and mice were undertaken by the Council's Rodent Operator, whose services are shared with Leighton Buzzard U.D.C.

Destruction work was carried out as follows:—

Dwelling Houses	...	...	...	...	65
Factories	...	...	...	...	5
Sewage Works	...	...	...	...	2
Disused Refuse Tip	...	...	...	...	3
Shops	...	...	...	...	1
Mill	...	...	...	...	4
Brook Courses	...	...	...	...	2

Sewer inspections were made, and test baiting and maintenance treatment carried out as required by the Ministry of Food.

(F) PREVALENCE OF INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

1. GENERAL

There was an increase in the number of cases of Whooping Cough, but a marked drop in the incidence of measles.

2. NUMBER OF NOTIFIED CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE

					1949	1950
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	11	25
Measles	...	...	...	...	12	4
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	3	1
Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	10	12
Food Poisoning	...	...	...	...	7	3

3. CANCER

This disease claimed 10 deaths during the year.

4. TUBERCULOSIS

One new case was notified and there was one death during the year.

D. H. WALDRON
(Medical Officer of Health)

H. JACKSON & Co.
(Printers & Publishers)
High Street, Leighton Buzzard
